



Minnesota Amateur Radio Technical Society

<http://www.mn-arts.org/>

Don't forget to sign up on the reflector!!

From the President

Coming up at our next meeting (February 2nd) is our annual build-a-thon and FYBO event from 9AM to 4PM. If you have been there before you know it is always a great time. Some members ordered either the SMT Dummy Load or the SMK-2 Transceiver from grpkits.com to work on. Some will be bringing other projects - I got a NEScaf from the New England QRP Club for Christmas (actually from my kids for Christmas) that I hope to work on. Others will be hanging out in the parking lot working FYBO or the MN QSO Party (QRP CW). And still more will be braving the warm inside weather operating the MN QSO Party with the Minnetonka Radio Club (SSB and CW) at their club station. There is something for everyone to participate in, or just show up for support, to hang out, or just check us out.

To help with the build-a-thon, there will be a few solder stations available including a magnifier for the SMT parts; however if you have a soldering station you could bring, it would be appreciated. And if you have any wonderful treats you want to share, we all enjoy those as well. FYI - Coffee will

be provided but lunch will not, so please plan accordingly.

Also, I know a lot of you are planning to work the MN QSO Party from home. When you submit your log (which I hope you do) please put the Minnesota Amateur Radio Technical Society as your club. This will get our name out to the public more as well. I know a few of you have mentioned doing this and we appreciate all the help we can get in promoting our great club - thanks.

Hope to see you sometime that day. Let any of the officers know if you have any questions.

73 de chuck ka8hde

February Activity

The club will host a build-a-thon and operating event February 2. We have the room reserved between 9 and 4 that day.

For those wanting to brave the elements there will be a station set up in the parking lot. Those wanting to stay warm can join the Minnetonka group that will be operating their club station. We will

be participating in the Minnesota QSO Party and FYBO that day.

The main meeting room will be set up for the build-a-thon. The kits that were ordered will be there. You are also encouraged to bring your own project if you prefer. If you need to troubleshoot a piece of equipment feel free to bring that along as well.

You should bring your own hand tools and soldering iron if you have them. There will be some hand tools, good magnifiers, soldering devices and test gear which you will be welcome to use.

There will also be coffee and things to eat. Feel free to bring a dish if you like.

January 5, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Chuck, KA8HDE, presided at 1:30.

Introductions were made around the table.

29 were in attendance.

Minutes from the December 1, 2012 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE reports that we have \$920 in our account. One new member signed up during November.

Old Business:

- Vanity club call has been applied for. Chuck, KA8HDE, investigated the available calls and made the application.

- Founding member certificates were made available for those that hadn't picked theirs up yet.
- Rich, KD0TDF, provided an update on the educational outreach initiative. Frank, N1UW, reminded the group that there was a club challenge to sponsor a Boy Scout merit badge. Frank will send more information on this ARRL initiative.

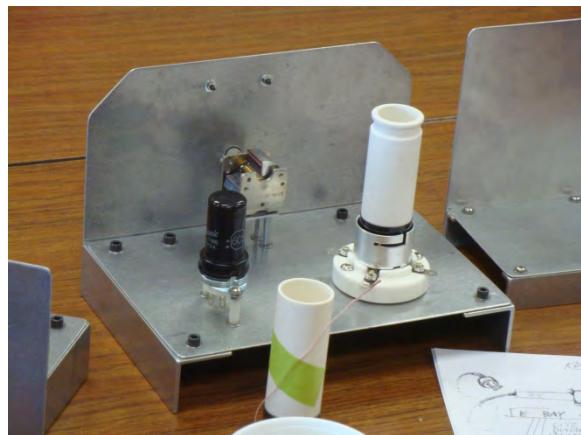
New Business

- Instead of a regular meeting in February the club will have a special activity. See above for description.
- Tom Kent, WM0SS, wanted to know who was interested in operating the FYBO contest next month. A signup sheet was passed around. See Tom if you want to participate.
- The club web site was down for a little while. Jeremy Mooney, KC0LDI, resolved the problem and all is working correctly now.
- March 1 will mark the first year anniversary for the club. Be sure to renew your membership!

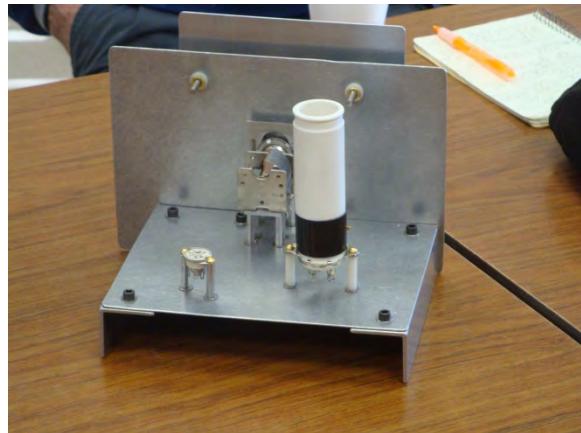
Business meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Show & Tell:

- TJ, KD0QHY, brought in a nicely built microphone switchbox he had recently constructed. He provided a full description of how it worked and also told us about a J pole antenna he had constructed using $\frac{3}{4}$ " copper pipe.

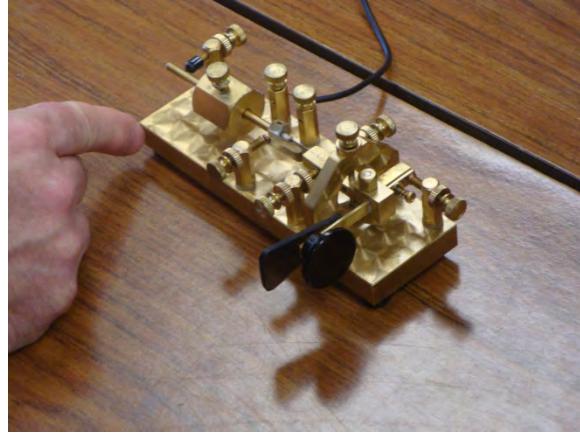


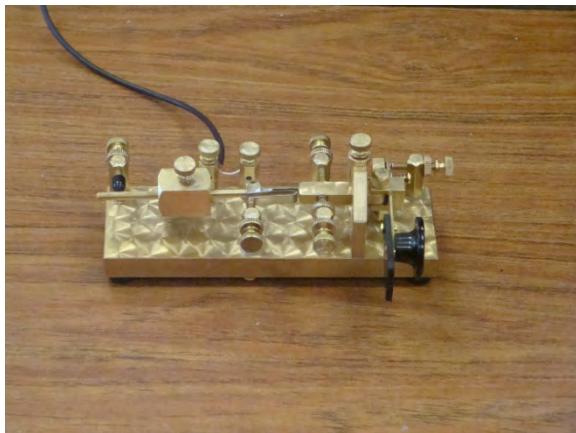
- Kurt Nordwall, KD0LKC, showed us his progress on the retro radios he is constructing. Kurt has been working with litz wire for the construction of the plug in coils and described a way to easily solder the wire which can be problematic. He also brought in two older books with various radio plans along with an old Shortwave Coil Data book. Kurt also described how he fabricated part of the metal chassis.





- Stan Leeson, AE0SL, brought in his QRP “go box”. He uses a Pelican case for this. Inside he had an Elecraft KX3, a 10 Ah battery and a special cable he is making up to connect the KX3 to an iPad for use as a spectrum display. There was also a beautiful solid brass bug. Stan said that the battery worked well for his purposes and gave us a run down on the connecting cord he was constructing for the KX3 – iPad link.





- Les Bearl, N0PPF, discussed the revisions that have been made to the Hendricks SMK-2 which several members have chosen for the club build next month.
- Paul Bushouse, N0TYE, described the action of the getter assembly inside of a vacuum tube. The device is used to eliminate any residual gas inside the tube after it has been evacuated.
- Larry Gaalass, KB0R, told us about a model helicopter with six rotor blades he saw demonstrated the other day. It had a built in "homing" device which would automatically return it home in a safe controlled descent. This was a good example of how far electronics and the radio art have come over the past few years.

Larry also gave us an update on the AM transceiver project that Craig and Mert are working on. He reports good progress and that Mert has got the modulation transformer design well in hand.

- Steve Ulrich, NW0C, brought in the Hendricks SMK-2 kit that he received so that those who ordered one would

know what they would be getting. He also brought in a Ten-Tec 9 band shortwave regenerative kit that he recently received. Construction has not started on this yet.



- Ron Dodge, K0TC, reminded us that the RTTY Round Up was going on this weekend and reviewed the simple exchange involved. Ron encouraged us to make a few contacts over the weekend in the contest.
- Bob Shaw, KD0JZM, brought in a USB/SDR radio as described in the January 2013 QST. He is currently waiting for an RF adapter for the device. Bob also brought in a couple of disk drive chassis which he offered to anyone that was looking for a nice project box.



Respectfully submitted,
Steve, NW0C

Club Officers:

President: Chuck Stroud/KA8HDE
Vice Pres: Larry Gaalaas/KB0R
Secretary: Steve Ulrich/NW0C
Treasurer: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE
At Large: Tom Kent

ka8hde79@yahoo.com
larry@circleq.net
ulrichs@comcast.net
p-bushouse@bethel.edu
tkent1952@gmail.com